NUMB. XCVII.

The SPECTATOR.

Projecere animas ——— Virg.

Thurſday, June 21. 1711.

AMONG the looſe Papers which I have frequently ſpoken of heretofore, I find a Converſation between *Pharamond* and *Eucrate* upon the Subject of Duels, and the Edict iſſued in conſequence of that Diſ-

argued, That nothing but the moſt ſevere Punishments, ſuch as placing the Bodies Offenders in Chains, and putting them to the moſt Exquiſite Torments, would be to extirpate a Crime which had ſo long and was ſo firmly fixed in the Opinion as great and laudable; but the King That indeed Inſtances of Ignominy were the Cure of this Evil, but conſidering prevailed only among ſuch as had a Nicety of Honour, and that it often happen- that was fought (to ſave Appearances to the when both Parties were in their Hearts in A- Reconciliation to each other; it was evident, the Mode another way would effectual- to what had Being only as a Mode. That tions, Poverty and Shame were Torments That he would not go further in puniſhing Crimes which he was ſatisfied he himſelf guilty of, in that he might have pre- by ſpeaking his Diſpleaſure ſooner. Be- the King ſaid, he was in general averſe which was putting Human Nature it than the Criminal, to Diſgrace, and that be ſure not to uſe this Means where the but an ill Effect ariſing from a laudable Fear of Shame. The King, at the ſame with much Grace upon the Subject of repented of many Acts of that kind magnificent Aſpect in the doing, but Conſequences in the Example. Mercy to obſerved, was Cruelty in the General: Prince could not revive a Dead Man Life of him who killed him, neither Reparation to the next that ſhould dye by the evil Example; or anſwer to himſelf for the Partiality in not pardoning the next as well as the former Offender. 'As for me, ſays *Pharamond*, 'I have conquer'd *France*, and yet have given Laws 'to my People; the Laws are my Methods of Life, 'they are not a Diminution but a Direction to my 'Power. I am ſtill abſolute to diſtinguiſh the Innocent and the Virtuous, to give Honours to the 'Brave and Generous: I am abſolute in my Good-will, none can oppoſe my Bounty, or preſcribe 'Rules for my Favour. While I can, as I pleaſe, 'reward the Good, I am under no Pain that I cannot pardon the Wicked: For which Reaſon, continued *Pharamond*, I will effectually put a ſtop to 'this Evil, by expoſing no more the Tenderneſs of 'my Nature to the Importunity of having the ſame 'Reſpect to thoſe who are miſerable by their Fault, 'and thoſe who are ſo by their Misfortune. Flatterers (concluded the King ſmiling) repeat to us 'Princes, that we are Heaven's Vice-gerents; Let 'us be ſo, and let the only thing out of our Power be *to do Ill*.

Soon after the Evening wherein *Pharamond* and *Eucrate* had this Converſation the following Edict was Publiſh'd.

Pharamond's Edict againſt Duels.

Pharamond, *King of the* Gauls, *to all his Loving Subjects ſendeth Greeting.*

'WHereas it has come to our Royal Notice and Obſervation, that in Contempt of all Laws, 'Divine and Human, it is of late become a Cuſtom among the Nobility and Gentry of this our 'Kingdom, upon ſlight and trivial, as well as 'great and urgent Provocations, to invite each other into the Field, there by their own Hands, 'and of their own Authority, to decide their Controverſies by Combat, we have thought fit to take

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'the said Custom into our Royal Consideration, 'and find, upon Enquiry into the usual Causes 'whereon such fatal Decisions have arisen, that 'by this wicked Custom, maugre all the Pre- 'cepts of our Holy Religion, and the Rules of 'right Reason, the greatest Act of the Human 'Mind, *Forgiveness of Injuries*, is become vile and 'shameful; that the Rules of Good Society and 'Virtuous Conversation are hereby inverted; that 'the Loose, the Vain and the Impudent insult the 'Careful, the Discreet and the Modest; that all 'Virtue is suppressed, and all Vice supported, in 'the one Act of being capable to dare to the 'Death. We have also further, with great Sor- 'row of Mind, observed that this Dreadful Action, 'by long Impunity, (our Royal Attention be- 'ing employed upon Matters of more general Con- 'cern) is become Honourable, and the Refusal to 'engage in it Ignominious. In these our Royal 'Cares and Enquiries we are yet farther made to 'understand, that the Persons of most Eminent 'Worth, and most Hopeful Abilities, accompani- 'ed with the strongest Passion for true Glory, are 'such as are most liable to be involved in the Dan- 'gers arising from this Licence. Now taking the 'said Premises into our serious Consideration, and 'well weighing that all such Emergencies (where- 'in the Mind is incapable of commanding it self, 'and where the Injury is too sudden or too ex- 'quisite to be born) are particularly provided for 'by Laws heretofore enacted, and that the Qua- 'lities of less Injuries, like those of Ingratitude, 'are too nice and delicate to come under General 'Rules, We do resolve to Blot this Fashion, or 'Wantonness of Anger, out of the Minds of our 'Subjects, by our Royal Resolutions declared in 'this Edict, as follow.

'No Person who either Sends or Accepts a Chal- 'lenge, or the Posterity of either, tho' no Death 'ensues thereupon, shall be, after the Publication of 'this our Edict, capable of bearing Office in these 'our Dominions.

'The Person who shall prove the sending or re- 'ceiving a Challenge, shall receive, to his own 'Use and Property, the whole Personal Estate of 'both Parties; and their Real Estate shall be imme- 'diately vested in the next Heir of the Offenders, 'in as ample manner as if the said Offenders were 'actually Deceased.

'In Cases where the Laws (which we have al- 'ready granted to our Subjects) admit of an Ap- 'peal for Blood, when the Criminal is condemned 'by the said Appeal, he shall not only suffer Death, 'but his whole Estate, Real, Mixed and Personal, 'shall from the hour of his Death be vested in the 'next Heir of the Person whose Blood he spilt.

'That it shall not hereafter be in our Royal 'Power, or that of our Successors, to pardon the 'said Offences, or restore them in their Estates, 'Honour, or Blood for ever.

Given at our Court at Blois *the 8th of* February, 42c. *In the Second Year of our Reign.*

Compleat Setts of this Paper, for the [illegible] *May, are to be sold by Mr. Graves in St.* [illegible] *Street; Mr. Lewis under Tom's Coff.* [illegible] *Covent-Garden; Mr. Lillie, Perfumer, the Corner* [illegible] *Beaufort-Buildings; Mr. Sanger at the Temple Gate; Mr. Lloyd near the Church in the Temple; Mr.* [illegible] *ton in St. Paul's Church-Yard; Mr. Round in* [illegible] *change Alley, and Mrs. Baldwin in Warwick-Lane, where also may be had those for the Months of March and April.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WHereas her Majesty hath been Gracious- [illegible] pleas'd to grant her Royal Letters Patents unto Mr. [illegible] chael Cole, for the sole Use of his Invention of a new [illegible] Lights, consisting of one entire Globular Glass, which will [illegible] true, clear, strong and uniform Light, without glaring or any [illegible] Shadow, and which, by Experience hath been found to be very [illegible] and Ornamental in Churches, Halls, Stair-Cases, Streets, and any [illegible] Publick Places. These are to give Notice to all Persons desirous [illegible] Accommodated with the same, that they can be afforded and [illegible] at one third part of the Charge of other Lights hereto fore us'd, [illegible] that the Patentee or his Agents may be heard of, or spoken with at [illegible] Peter Smith's a Merchant in New Court in Swithin's Lane near [illegible] bard Street.

The Office of Assurance upon the Lives of Per- [illegible] healthful between the Ages of Ten and five and fifty Years, by [illegible] of 5 l. 3 s. and 2 l. and by Monthly and Quarterly Dividends, [illegible] Mitre in St. James's Market, having met with all Suitable [illegible] ragement, from such Persons who have heard thereof, and in its [illegible] ture tending wholly to the benefit of the Publick; the Proprietors [illegible] are Men of Credit and Substance) give Notice, that Attendance [illegible] duly given at the Mitre aboves aid, to receive all such Entries [illegible] shall be approved of, according to the Constitution of the said [illegible] 3000 l. Security is already given by the Treasurer, and Proposals [illegible] Office Gratis.

To be Sold, at a lower Rate than ordinary, at the [illegible] Queen's Head, joining to the Church Gate in Bedford Street, Covent Garden, all Sorts of Druggets, Hair and Worsted Camlets, Shalloons, Duroys, Shagreens, Shalloons, Duratis, Padua Serges, Shags, Serges, Nissins, Calamancoes, and all other Goods fit for Mens Apparel. The Persons who now keep the Shop designing to leave off the Trade, the House and Shop to be a Lett Michaelmas next.

Yesterday was Publish'd,

Characteristicks of Men, Manners, Opinions, Times. In 3 Vols. Vol. I. Containing a Letter concerning Enthusiasm: Sensus Communis; or, an Essay on the Freedom of Wit and Humour: Soliloquy; or, Advice to an Author. Vol. II. An Inquiry concerning Virtue and Merit. The Moralists, a Philosophical Rhapsody. Vol. III. Miscellaneous Reflections on the said Treatises, and other critical Subjects. Sold by D. Browne without Temple-Bar; E. Sanger at the Post-house in Fleet-street; J. Round in Exchange-Alley in Cornhill; T. Archer in Russel-street, Covent Garden; and J. Graves near White's Chocolate-house in St. James's Street.

Yesterday was Publish'd,

Religion and Morals. Dedicated to her Grace the Dutchess of Beaufort. Price bound 1 s. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationer's Hall: Where may be had Mr. Hole's Exposition of the Church Catechism, in 4 t. Price bound 9 s.

This Day is Publish'd,

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